

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01

ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01

STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-07

NEA-10 /126 W

-----065974 171302Z /44

P R 171232Z AUG 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 373

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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LONDON FOR DEPUTY ASST SECRETARY MEISSNER

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: UNCTAD,IETRD

SUBJ: UNCTAD TDB (17TH SESSION)

REF: STATE 193169

SUMMARY: DURING GROUP B MEETING AUG 16 GROUP B AGREED TO ESTABLISH WORKING GROUP TO PREPARE FOR SPECIAL SESSION OF TDB AND DISCUSSED BRIEFLY SECOND DEBT EXPERTS MEETING AND OFFICERS AND AGENDA FOR 17TH TDB. END SUMMARY.

1.IAT GROUP B MEETING AUG 16 EC STATED THAT STATE OF PROGRESS ON INTEGRATED PROGRAM FOR COMMODITIES AND, IN PARTICULAR PROGRESS ON COMMON FUND, WOULD BE NATURAL SUBJECT FOR MINISTERIAL TDB. CANADA'S PRELIMINARY THINKING IS THAT AGENDA ITEM 6(C) OF 17TH TDB, (I.E. PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF MEASURES IN FAVOR OF THE LEASE DEVELOPED AND ISLAND AND LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COUNTRIES) WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE AGENDA ITEM FOR MINISTERIAL MEETING. WE NOTED THAT WE STILL HOPE GROUP B CAN AVOID DISCUSSING COMMON FUND AT MINISTERIAL TDB.

2. GROUP B AGREED TO US PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH WORKING GROUP TO PREPARE FOR 9TH SPECIAL SESSION. WG WILL BEGIN WORK NEXT WEEK AND WILL FOCUS ON IDENTIFYING ADDITIONAL

AGENDA ITEMS AND TACTICS. EC AT FIRST OPPOSED WG BECAUSE ITS EXPERTS WILL STILL BE ON VACATION; CHAIRMAN THEREFORE SUGGESTED THAT WG TRY TO AVOID GETTING INTO SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS DURING FIRST WEEK.

3. EC QUESTIONED THE NEED FOR A SECOND DEBT EXPERTS' GROUP MEETING AS EXPERTS HAVE ALREADY EXHAUSTED THEIR MANDATE AT THEIR FIRST MEETING. HOWEVER, CANADA AND FRANCE REPLIED THAT EXCEPT FOR THE US, EVERYONE ELSE HAD AGREED TO SECOND EXPERTS' MEETINGS AND IT WOULD BE BAD FAITH TO GO BACK ON THIS. FRENCH REP INTRODUCED PERSONAL IDEA OF ENLARGING SCOPE OF SECOND SESSION OF DEBT EXPERTS' TO INCLUDE ALL ITEMS ON AGENDA FOR 9TH SPECIAL SESSION, (I.E. TREAT THE DEBT EXPERTS' MEETING AS A PREPARATORY MEETING FOR 9TH SPECIAL SESSION). THERE WAS NO REACTION TO THIS IDEA.

4. G-77 EXPECTED TO NOMINATE AMB ALWIS OF SRI LANKA TO BE PRESIDENT OF TDB. NO ONE HAD FIRM INFORMATION ON WHETHER OFFICERS OF 17TH TDB WOULD ALSO SERVE FOR 9TH SPECIAL SESSION. JAPANESE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY SECRETARIAT MEMBER THAT ACCORDING TO RULE 5 OF TDB, SAME OFFICERS WOULD SERVE FOR ALL TDB MEETINGS DURING YEAR. LEROUX OF FRANCE BELIEVES IT WOULD BE A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT TO CHANGE THIS PROCEDURE; HE ALSO NOTED OFFICERS SERVE IN THEIR PERSONAL CAPACITIES.  
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FRENCH WILL ENDEAVOR LEARN G-77 THINKING ON THIS QUESTION. CHAIRMAN ASKED GROUP TO DECIDE AUG 22 IF IT WANTS TO SEEK CHAIRMANSHIP OF SESSIONAL COMMITTEE I.

5. ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE WORK AMONG THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEES, THERE WAS SOME CONSIDERATION OF SHIFTING ITEM ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO SESSIONAL COMMITTEE II, BUT GIVEN STRONG G-77 ATTACHMENT TO THIS AGENDA ITEM, AND LOWER STATUS OF COMMITTEE II, GROUP AGREED TO LEAVE DISTRIBUTION OF WORK AMONG SESSIONAL COMMITTEES AS IS. GROUP B MUST DECIDE AUG 22 ON COORDINATORS FOR SESSIONAL COMMITTEES AND CONTACT GROUP TO HANDLE ITEMS 7(H) AND 7(C). POSSIBLE CANDIDATES INCLUDE ALLEN (US) FOR CONTACT GROUP, LEROUX OF FRANCE FOR COMMITTEE I AND HENNY WEGNER'S REPLACEMENT (FRG) FOR COMMITTEE II, BUT QUESTION IS STILL UP IN THE AIR.

6. THERE WAS LITTLE TIME FOR DISCUSSION OF SUBSTANTIVE AGENDA ITEMS. FEVRE OF FRANCE SUGGESTED GROUP B MEMBERS SHOULD CONSIDER IF THEY WANT TO MAKE GENERAL STATEMENTS UNDER THE ITEM INTERDEPENDENCE AS THERE ARE POINTS IN THE SECRETARY'S DOCUMENT THAT GROUP B MEMBERS MIGHT WANT TO

CHALLENGE. AFRICANS ARE NOT EXPECTED TO TRY TO DO ANYTHING  
WITH RESOLUTION TD/B/L360.

7. SHIPPING DIVISION DIRECTOR TOLD FEVRE THAT HE DOES NOT  
EXPECT DISCUSSION OF NEW MANDATE FOR SHIPPING COMMITTEE (AGENDA  
ITEM 7(H) TO TAKE PLACE UNTIL SPRING MEETING OF 17TH TDB.  
US WAS ABLE TO MAKE MOST OF THE POINTS IN PARAS 2(A), (B)  
AND (D) OF REFTEL DURING DISCUSSION. SORENSON

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009